

ABSTRACT

A method or apparatus is provided for detecting an error condition associated with a load (R_L) or a connection (P) to the load (R_L). The load (R_L)
5 may comprise an energy storing element (Cext). During a first diagnosis phase, it is determined whether the load (R_L) or the connection (P) to the load (R_L) is in a normal operation condition or in an error condition. If the load (R_L) or the connection (P) to the load (R_L) is in an error condition, during a second diagnosis phase it is determined whether the error condition is an open load condition, short
10 circuit condition to ground or a short circuit condition to a power supply. When the load is in a starting state before the first diagnosis phase, the method or apparatus may further comprise carrying out, after the second diagnosis phase, a resetting phase for resetting the load to the starting state.